

REMARKS

The non-final office action issued by the Examiner and the citations referred to in the office action have been carefully considered.

Claims 2-5, 8, and 10-15 have been cancelled.

Claims 19-21 have been added.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102*Claims 1, 6-7 and 16-17*

Claim 1, from which claims 6-7 and 16-17 depend, has been amended. It is respectfully submitted that amended claim 1 is not anticipated by the Mulvaney reference.

For at least the reasons that the inlet component layer comprises an inlet reformat manifold located at an outer edge of the reformat inlet component layer, an inlet reformat process fluid flow passage, and an inlet flow distribution region, wherein the inlet reformat manifold allows for entry of a reformat process fluid into the inlet reformat process fluid flow passage for the inward flow of reformat process fluid towards the inlet flow distribution region and into the centrally located reformation cavity; and, the reformat outlet component layer comprises a reformat outlet manifold located at an outer edge of the reformat outlet component layer, an outlet reformat process fluid flow passage and an outlet distribution region, wherein the outlet reformat process fluid flow passage allows for the outward flow of reformat process fluid from the centrally located reformation cavity and the outlet distribution region and the reformat outlet manifold allows for the exit of reformat process fluid from the outlet reformat process fluid flow passage.

Additionally, as amended, claim 6 places the inlet combustion process fluid flow passage in thermal contact with the outlet combustion flow process, which is not anticipated by the Mulvaney reference.

Claim 7 has been amended to more clearly delineate that the circumferential reformat fluid flow is extending counter-clockwise from the inlet reformat manifold located at an outer edge of the reformat inlet component layer towards the inlet flow distribution region and into

the centrally located reformation cavity, and wherein the outlet reformat process fluid flow passage extends clockwise from the centrally located reformation cavity and the outlet distribution region towards the reformat outlet manifold located at an outer edge of the reformat outlet component layer. The Mulvaney reference does not anticipate this configuration of flow.

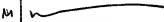
Because the cited reference does not identify or address the problems solved by the claimed assembly withdrawal of the rejections is earnestly solicited and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

It is further submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been successfully traversed and that the application is now in order for allowance.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s), or to credit any overpayments to **Deposit Account Number 50-2036**. Please ensure that Attorney Docket Number 044186.050001 is referred to when charging any payments or credits for this case.

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Respectfully Submitted,



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